



JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

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MORE FEDERAL FUNDS FOR WATER WORKS AND SEWERAGE?

THE American Water Works Association's activity in connection with the Public Works Program has entered a new stage during the past two months. This has been occasioned by the convening of Congress in Washington and the probability of legislation extending the PWA Program.

It became increasingly evident during the latter part of 1933 that the 3.3 Billion Dollar Fund would not be sufficient to take care of all of the applications on file in PWA offices, and that, unless more money were made available, many worthy and needed projects, including much water works and sewerage work, would be left without the necessary financing. Moreover, it was evident that the PWA Program could not be terminated because the desired beneficial effects had not yet been fully accomplished and industry had not yet reached a point where recovery could continue on its own strength. The problem facing the Administration is *how* much should be appropriated by Congress and *how* should it be used.

Our Association, through its National Recovery Committee for Water Works Construction, has been endeavoring to insure, so far as possible, that the availability of an ample quantity of needed work in water and sewerage projects should be fully recognized so that the funds which are to be expended might produce the maximum benefit to the nation. Our attitude is reflected in the statement of Dr. H. S. Cumming, Surgeon General,

United States Public Health Service, on May 11, 1933, in which he said, "There can, however, be no question that if such appropriations be made available, in no way could they be more useful to this and future generations than in the construction and installation of adequate and safe water supplies and sewage disposal systems."

The efforts of our Recovery Committee and the Sectional and other coöperating Committees have been until recently largely directed towards the translation of the potential demands for sanitary projects into definite applications for PWA funds, and in assisting in the overcoming of the various obstacles which existed to this first step in the accomplishment of our aims. In this work we have contributed to most satisfactory results, as is witnessed by the large volume of applications which the PWA has received for this type of project and which are still awaiting action, beyond those projects which actually have received allocation of funds. Considerably over 600 million dollars is represented in water works and sewerage applications which are now on file awaiting allocations.

There have actually been allocated for sanitary projects, as of the latest figures obtainable, the following totals:

| | projects | |
|-------------------|----------|---------------|
| Water Works | 451 | \$86,666,972 |
| Sewerage | 347 | 133,964,260 |
| Total | 798 | \$200,631,232 |

The progress in putting these projects actually under contract and in productive stages has been disappointingly slow. As this is accomplished, however, the effect of this volume of work is bound to be felt, not only in this particular industry, but in the country as a whole.

Our National Committee was represented in Washington early in January by a delegation consisting of Messrs. Pirnie, Orchard and Delzell. They were in contact at that time, not only with the Public Works Administration, but also with the individuals in Congress who have been the leaders in legislation relating to Public Works. At that time a summary by states was presented, showing the totals of water works and sewerage projects which were needed and which could, to advantage, avail themselves of funds.

As a result of the interest aroused by these figures, a request was received for a detailed report of the projects making up this summary and this, in turn, was presented on January 26th, 1934. This detailed tabulation listed 4,771 individual projects, with a total estimated cost of over one billion dollars. This very impressive list had been compiled from information collected locally in all parts of the United States and sent in to the National Headquarters of the Committee by the 554 members of the Sectional and other cooperating Recovery Committees who are working with the National Committee.

The reception accorded to the Association's Committee made it obvious that our efforts have been appreciated and that we are expected to go forward in the work of making available such worthy projects as water works and sewerage in order to provide useful and needed employment during the coming year for those released from CWA projects, as that latter emer-

gency program is gradually brought to an end.

The Association's Board of Directors, at its regular meeting in New York on January 16th, 1934, discussed the work of the Recovery Committees at length. The following resolution was passed:

WHEREAS pursuant to action by this Board at its meeting in Chicago on June 15th, 1933, there was formed a Committee of the American Water Works Association known as the National Recovery Committee for Water Works Construction, together with similarly designated Committees of each of the Local Sections of the Association, and

WHEREAS there were also formed similarly designated cooperating Committees by each one of several local associations having similar interests, notably the New England Water Works Association, the Virginia Water and Sewerage Association, and the Southwest Water Works Association, and

WHEREAS these Committees and the many individuals comprising their membership have been actively engaged in the promotion of the work as originally contemplated, and have put forth much diligent effort at personal expense in time and money,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved

That this Board wishes hereby to express its approval and appreciation of the work of each one of these Committees, not only the National Committee, but particularly of the Local Committees and the many individuals and cooperating organizations of which they are composed, and by whom they have been assisted, and

That this Board, as a strengthening of the feeling of accomplishment which it wishes to transmit to these many individuals, wishes to state its belief that this work has been of real benefit and value, direct and indirect, to the nation, to the water works industry and to the Association, and

That this Board takes the occasion to call for a continuation and coordination of the efforts which have been put forth to the end that the work and its benefits may continue so that the ground that has been gained in the National Recovery program may be held and further extended to the point where spontaneous recovery can continue.

The Board of Directors at its meeting in New York City in January adopted the following tentative budget for 1934:

| <i>Operating Budget</i> | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Convention Expense.. | \$3,500.00 |
| 2. Office Expense..... | 5,500.00 |
| 3. Committee Expense.. | 2,750.00 |
| 4. Section and Division Expense..... | 2,500.00 |
| 5. Directors' Meetings.. | 1,500.00 |
| 6. Salaries..... | 19,900.00 |
| 7. Printing Journal.... | 17,500.00 |
| 8. Reprints and Specifications..... | 900.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total Operating Budget Accounts. | \$54,050.00 |

| <i>Extraordinary Expense Budget</i> | |
|---|-------------|
| Printing Appendix 1 of the Manual..... | \$50.00 |
| Publication of Index to Proceedings..... | 2,000.00 |
| Publication of Report of Comm. 5 (Quality and Treatment)..... | 1,660.00 |
| Publication of Census of Water Purification Plants (less sales).... | 150.00 |
| National Recovery Committee for Water Works Construction... | 4,000.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total Extraordinary Budget Accounts.... | \$7,860.00 |
| Total Budget Accounts..... | \$61,910.00 |

A NUMBER of privately owned water companies, through the Institute of Water Supply Utilities, Inc., an organization formed for that purpose, have drafted a code of fair competition for the water supply industry. This code is now awaiting action of the NRA and a hearing on the subject of this code is now scheduled for February 20th, 1934, before Deputy Administrator Leighton H. Peebles.

The proposed code makes mention of municipally owned water supply organizations and offers to them the opportunity of subscribing to it and of being represented on its Code Authority.

This code is printed in full in a pamphlet entitled "Proposed Code of Fair Competition for the Water Supply Industry" issued by the Federal Government, and copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., at five cents per copy.

Mr. Malcolm Pirnie, until a month ago a deputy administrator of the NRA on the codes for the construction industry and President of the American Water Works Association, has appointed an A. W. W. A. Committee on Water Supply Industry Code. This committee is made up of men whose work has been identified mainly with publicly owned water supplies and has been organized to promote the following purposes:

1. To discuss the relationship of municipally owned water utilities to the proposed Code of Fair Competition for the Water Supply Industry.

2. To coöperate in every way possible with the private water companies in the operation of the code.

3. To study the problems presented by the code from the standpoint of municipally owned utilities in the hope that they may, in large numbers, be permitted to subscribe to the code and aid in the general advancement of the industry as a whole.

4. To search for and act upon any opportunities which there may be for proper recognition of water works personnel in its important service to communities. There may be potentially in the code for the water supply industry a possibility of aiding in establishing continuity of trained personnel.

News of the Sections

In the Advertising Section of the February JOURNAL appears a list of numerous coming meetings.

Virginia Section: We are pleased to announce the formation of a Virginia Section, formally approved by the Board at its January meeting. Virginia always had a nice sized list of members and the Virginia Water and Sewage Works Association at its meeting early last fall decided to come over with the A. W. W. A. as a Section. This is

good news. The Association now has nineteen sections and the entire country is covered with the exception of six states.

Canadian Section: Secretary A. E. Berry recently got out a circular letter to their members, portions of which are quoted below.

"Convention time is coming. Your executive committee met on the 26th of last month to further the program and other arrangements for the meeting on April 4th to 6th, at the Royal York Hotel.

"The printed program will be distributed shortly. The papers have been selected to offer interest, new developments, and variety to fit into the different phases of water works practice. Exhibits of water works equipment will play a prominent part as usual, with ideal facilities available for their display. An exhibit is also planned to show the growth and activities of the Canadian Section covering the fourteen years of its existence. Inspection trips, entertainment and the many other features of a water works convention will all be to the fore to make this the best convention yet held by the Section. A record registration is expected for Toronto's first convention of the Canadian Section.

"It is gratifying to be able to report an increase of eighteen new members since the last circular letter. This makes a total of one hundred and sixty-five, considerably the highest figure yet reached. The members will welcome with pleasure these men to the Canadian Section. The interest shown in membership in the province of Quebec is most commendable. This general increase has been made possible by the wholehearted enthusiasm of the members in interesting others in Section activities.

"It is hoped that additional members will be secured before the convention and that the Canadian Section this year will be right in the front for the Hill Membership Cup.

"It is with deep regret that we record the death on January 23rd of Tom Hooper of Winnipeg. He had been in the hospital for some time, but appeared well on the road to recovery. His cheery personality at conventions and his solid support to all progressive movements will be greatly missed by everyone in the Section. The Section extends sympathy to Mrs. Hooper and family in their loss.

"The Canadian Section executive committee has advanced the proposal

of certification of water works operators. At the recent meeting it was decided to prepare a report for submission to the general meeting in April."

Montana Section: Secretary H. B. Foote sent out recently one of his interesting bulletins, portions of which are quoted below.

"The dates for our 1934 (9th annual) meeting have been decided upon. They are April 20th and 21st.

"The Third School for Water Works Operators will be held April 18th and 19th.

"The school program will provide instruction for all who come, regardless of previous attendance, as an enlargement and expansion of the subject matter to be handled is planned.

"The place for both of these meetings is Billings.

"As you all know, the Montana Section was awarded the Nicholas S. Hill, Jr. Cup for membership merits for the year ending at the June national convention. We are all working hard to retain the cup next year. It is a large handsome trophy, and will be on exhibition at the Billings meeting.

"In order to keep it, we will have to do some hard work. One man cannot do it all. Let's each one get out and get busy after new members. If the organization is worthwhile, it is worth getting members into it, and there is a lot of good eligible membership material at hand. Chairman Thane has written to a number of prospective members.

"Mr. McKinnon, Engineer for the State Public Works Boards (PWA), advised that sixteen applications for water supply improvements and construction have been approved and forwarded to Washington. The total of loans and grants requested amounts to \$806,522.50.

"Two applications for sewage works have also been made, totalling \$51,000.00.

"There is yet time for filing of applications in case your city needs or desires money for improvements.

"During the year 1933 there were analyzed in the State Board of Health Water Laboratory 5,067 samples of water. Of these, 4,872 were for bacterial quality and 195 for chemical quality. Of the chemical analyses, 33 were made for municipalities seeking new or better sources of domestic water supply. The staff made 176 inspections in the field.

"The deaths from typhoid fever in Montana in 1933 numbered fifteen, giving a death rate of approximately 2.8 per 100,000 population."